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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Franck Savard

Title: REAR DERAILLEUR DEVICE FOR A BICYCLE

Serial No.: 09/763,507

International Application No.: PCT/FR98/01854

International Filing Date: August 26, 1998

Docket No.: 33354

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TS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, applicant is submitting herewith Form PTO-1449 listing references for consideration by the Examiner.

Copies of the following references are not included because they were previously sent by the International Bureau: FR 2 750 668; DE 42 07 372; FR 2 037 543; FR 994 334; US 4 637 808; FR 2 703 020; and FR 2 759 968.

It is believed that FR 994 334 is not in the English language and no English translation was provided. Accordingly, an explanation of the relevance of this reference is provided as follows: FR 994 334 describes an automatic gear shift as can be seen especially from Fig. 1, the devices for tensioning the chain cannot be compared to the invention.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

John P. Murtaugh
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)
May 25, 2001 John P. Murtaugh
Date Signature of Attorney

A copy of U.S. Pat. No. 3,677,103 is enclosed; this reference is the counterpart U.S. patent to FR 2 037 543, which is not in the English language.

A copy of U.S. Pat. No. 6,135,903 is enclosed; this reference is the counterpart U.S. patent to FR 2 750 668, which is not in the English language.

It is believed that FR 2 703 020 is not in the English language and no English translation was provided. Accordingly, an explanation of the relevance of this reference is provided as follows: A derailing and positioning device for a chain of a bicycle is disclosed. The device comprises a transversally movable element which carries a chain guiding gear wheel. This element is connected to a fixed element with two articulated elements to form a parallelogram which can be deformed by the action of one or two commanding cables. The fixed element is connected to the corresponding branch of the rear fork of the bicycle. However, no synchronized control limiting the combination rear fork of the bicycle. However, no synchronized control limiting the combination for an adapted chain alignment and for reducing the necessary chain length is described. The document describes a mechanism to switch the chain from one sprocket to the other by use of said deformed parallelogram. Therefore, the document describes the general state of the art with respect to the invention but cannot be considered as relevant in regard of novelty and inventive step of the invention.

It is believed that FR 2 759 958 is not in the English language and no English translation was provided. Accordingly, an explanation of the relevance of this reference is provided as follows: This French patent by the inventor Frank Savard concerns the same invention as the present application.

European Patent No. 0 727 348 A1 is not in the English language and no English translation is provided. Accordingly, an explanation of the relevance of this reference is provided

as follows: European Patent No. 0 727 348 A1 describes a method for selecting gears for a cycle with adequate chain alignment and associated selection device. The arrangement described in this European patent application comprises two derailleurs, front and rear which are controlled by a single handle. Nevertheless, a further means for limiting the chain length is not described.

If any fees are required by this communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 33354.

Respectfully submitted,

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